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## News Release

## ICE DEPORTED 550 CRIMINAL ALIENS, STATUS VIOLATORS FROM 5-STATE AREA DURING JULY

NEW ORLEANS — U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officers announced today that the Detention and Removal Operations office here deported a total of 550 criminal and non-criminal aliens during July.

Those deported were lawfully ordered to leave the United States by a federal immigration judge and were removed to the following countries of origin: Mexico, Honduras, China, Peru, El Salvador, Jamaica, Haiti, Guatemala, India and Pakistan.

The offenses of the criminal aliens deported included: drug possession, assault on a police officer, sex offenses, weapons violations, theft, fraud, robbery, attempted murder, arson, rape, prostitution, selling marijuana, smuggling aliens, counterfeiting, indecent exposure, cruelty towards a child, second-degree battery, and many others.

Some of the criminals removed to their countries of origin in July include:

- Henry Reyes-Padilla and Walter Ayestas-Martinez, from Honduras, both committed sexual assault on a child and were deported July 28.
- David Rebatta, from Peru, committed sexual assault and was deported July 26.
- Osman Isaula, from Honduras, committed rape and was deported July 28.
- Jeremias Mendoza-Villanueva, from El Salvador, committed sexual assault and was deported July 29.
- Angel Fredy Perez-Calderon, from El Salvador, committed assault with a weapon, made terrorist threats and was deported July 29.

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"We are committed to restoring integrity to the nation's immigration system," said ICE Field Office Director Craig Robinson. "Our Detention and Removal Operations office helps protect the public by taking criminals and lawbreakers off the streets and out of the United States." Robinson heads the ICE New Orleans Detention and Removal Operations office, which includes the following five-state area: Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Arkansas and Tennessee.

This local enforcement operation is part of a 10-year strategic national initiative focused on locating, apprehending and removing the more than 400,000 absconders and 80,000 fugitive criminal aliens with outstanding final orders of removal that are hiding in the United States.

Criminal aliens are non-citizens who have committed felonies or other crimes that make them ineligible to remain in the United States according to the Immigration and Nationality Act. Status violators have no legal status to be in the United States under the act, but have not committed crimes.

A primary goal of ICE Detention and Removal Operations is to reduce the number of alien absconders who are hiding in the United States. Absconders are foreign nationals who have been ordered removed by a federal immigration judge, but failed to comply with those orders. Since absconders have already been through immigration proceedings, they are subject to immediate removal from the country.

## # ICE #

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.